

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

2SD11
· N6

5



Northern Region News



May 3, 1993

A Newsletter For Employees and Retirees

Issue 5

Two Forest Supervisors Reassigned to WO

Northern Regional Forester David Jolly announced April 19 that two of the Region's forest supervisors have been reassigned to the Forest Service Washington Office.

Ernie Nunn, forest supervisor of the Helena National Forest, will be reassigned to the Forest Service's land management planning staff. Curtis Bates, forest supervisor of the Custer National Forest will be reassigned to the range management staff.

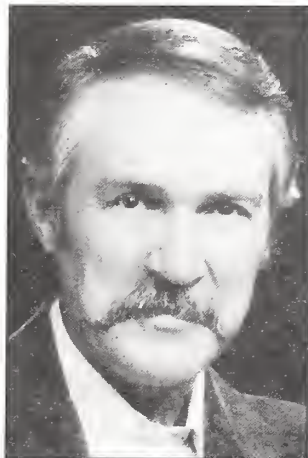


Ernie Nunn

Nunn came to the Helena National Forest in February 1988 from the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Jackson, Wyoming, where he had been deputy forest supervisor. He had previously worked at the Intermountain Regional headquarters, Ogden, Utah, and at numerous national forests in Colorado and Wyoming. A native of Oklahoma, Nunn has a degree in

forestry from Oklahoma State University.

Bates transferred from his position as deputy forest supervisor of the White River National Forest in Glenwood Springs, Colorado to the supervisor position on the Custer National Forest in November 1988. Also a native of Oklahoma, with a degree in range/forestry, Bates began his career with the Forest Service in California. He has served in various assignments on national forests in South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Colorado.



Curtis Bates

Jolly said that both Nunn and Bates are well qualified Forest Service professionals with broad experience in a variety of positions that will contribute to their success in their new assignments. Both reassignments to the agency's national headquarters are effective June 13, 1993.

Chief's Award Goes to Lick Creek Project

Nine Regional awards from Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson were presented for leadership and collaboration between research and the National Forest System in New Perspectives. The joint award was to acknowledge significant field application activity leading to innovative and creative accomplishment in support of New Perspectives philosophy.

Of the nine awards, one went to individuals with the Bitterroot Forest, the Intermountain Station and the University



L to R - Steve Arno, Carl Fiedler, Wyman Schmidt, Russ Graham, Clint Carlson, Michael Harrington, Rick Floch, Steve Kelly, and Ron Haag

of Montana for their work on the Lick Creek Demonstration Area.

The Lick Creek area includes about 3,000 acres and is located about 5 miles northwest of Darby in the Lick Creek drainage. Study of the area was led by the Forest Service, in partnership with concerned citizens, special interest groups, and scientists from the University of Montana. At the completion of the project, the group outlined the desired future condition of the area and a list of management activities that would begin moving the Lick Creek landscape toward that desired future condition.

These management activities include the demonstration of a new timber harvesting technology, improvement of forest health, development of interpretation for the public on new technologies and resource management, and watershed/fisheries rehabilitation activities.

Individuals receiving awards : **Bitterroot National Forest:** Jo Barnier, Bob McKee, Jack Losensky, Bob Hammer, John Ormiston, Forest Hayes, Nancy Ryke, Rick Swanson, Cathy Stewart, Rick Floch, Chuck Prausa. **Intermountain Station:** Clint Carlson, Russ Graham, Wyman Schmidt, Steve Arno, Michael Harrington, Bob Benson. **University of Montana:** Carl Fiedler.



R-1 Volunteers Receive National Award

by John Linch, Supervisor Forester
Wallace Ranger District
Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Most of us work for money and for the satisfaction; some of us just for the satisfaction. The second category includes the 2,759 people who volunteered their time and energy to Region 1 in some capacity in 1992.



Howardine and Charlie Smelcer

In honor of the services of volunteers, the Chief of the Forest Service annually presents the Chief's Volunteers Program National Awards. Of the 145 nominations forwarded from the Regions, 36 were selected for the prestigious award. Two of the 36 were from Region 1. They include Howardine Smelcer of Osburn, Idaho, and the Shoshone District Boy Scouts of America. Both

Smelcer and the boy scouts were volunteers for the Wallace Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

Mrs. Smelcer is one of the Wallace Ranger District's original volunteer hosts. Along with her husband Charlie, they volunteered the first season that campground hosts became a part of the Forest Service volunteer program. They returned year after year. During the winter of 1992, however, Mr. Smelcer passed away.

Without Charlie, Mrs. Smelcer thought that the responsibility of an entire campground would be more than she could handle. She reconsidered after discussing the problem with her daughter. Now in her 10th year as campground host, Ms. Smelcer, assisted by her daughter, welcomes the forest visitors to the Kit Price Campground. With a positive attitude and a service-oriented approach, she sets in motion district goodwill that has become her hallmark.

For the past six years, the Shoshone District Boy Scouts have taken on numerous volunteer projects, from trail reconstruction to an archaeological excavation of an historic logging camp. For their efforts, individual scouts have received state and national Take Pride in America awards as well as the Governor's Keep Idaho Green award.

Over the six-year period, the scouts have donated between 600 to 1,500 hours during each season. Throughout all of their volunteer work, they have learned on a first-hand basis, land management responsibilities and ethics which they will carry into adulthood.

Trapper Creek's Help at Special Olympics Recognized

For the participants, the Montana Winter Special Olympics represents lifetime memories of achievements, great times, and friends made. For many of the staff and students of the Trapper Creek Job Corps, they share many of the same memories, with the added satisfaction of helping others.

To date there have been 60 students involved and a total of 1,300 volunteer hours contributed to the winter Special Olympics. Recently social services assistant Jeff Menk received a certificate and cash award for his work organizing students and working with them during the events. Pete D'Almeida, supervisory social services assistant at Trapper Creek, also received a cash award and a certificate for his involvement in getting students for this project.

Other Forest Service employees within the Bitterroot National Forest who have been involved with the Special Olympics over the years: Mike Wilson (7 years); Deb Price (4 years); Bobbie Rumbaugh (3 years); Rita Underwood (2 years). Shirley Marsh, Forest Hayes, Gary Anderson, George Regan, Gina Owens, Sally Blevins, and Jim Fuchs assisted for one year.



Students who assisted last year at the Winter Special Olympics, held at Lost Trail Ski Resort. This year the Trapper Creek assistants maintained and monitored their tubing runs throughout the games and completed a sixth accident free year. Students could be found cheering at the medal presentations, carrying wheelchair Olympians up and down stairways, loading and unloading supplies and cleaning up heavy use areas. L to R - students who volunteered this year: Vince Saute, Jose Anfonso, Billy Perez, Noah O'Brien, Gail Wagner, Janet Smith, Mark Stahl, Carl Hansen, Garret Hodges. Trapper Creek staff Jeff Menk is at far right.

Employees Devise New Way to Quantify What Public Thinks

Certificates of appreciation were awarded several Regional Office and National Forest employees for their contributions in the Regional content analysis project. Those people included Cheryle Zwang, Kim Delgado and Geil Uber from the Public Affairs Office; Tim Foiles and Gretchen Lentz with Management Systems; Helga Plympton with the Flathead National Forest; and Deanna Riebe and Saly Suk with the Clearwater National Forest.

The project involved devising and

implementing a training course and database for conducting content analysis. Content analysis is the process of analyzing and utilizing public input in the decision-making process.

The project is significant because the training course and database have been accepted nationally and have standardized the content analysis process in the Forest Service. In making the awards,



L to R - Tim Foiles, Cheryle Zwang, Regional Forester Dave Jolly, Gretchen Lentz, Kim Delgado, Geil Uber

Regional Forester Dave Jolly stated that the new process greatly "enhances the ability to understand public needs and therefore contributes to better resource management decisions."



Historic photo of Judith Guard Station. Date unknown.

Judith Guard Station Listed on National Register of Historic Places

Built in 1908 by the Forest Service, Judith Guard Station was recently awarded a certificate by Governor Marc Racicot marking the listing of the structure on the National Register of Historic Places. District Ranger Larry Timchak accepted the certificate in a ceremony in Helena.

The National Register is the Federal government's official list of sites in the country worthy of preservation. The program

is administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Properties are listed based on their importance in the area of history, architecture, or archaeology.

Located southwest of Utica in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, Judith Guard Station was found significant for its history and architecture because of the building's representation as an early ranger station.

The district plans to restore the building to a 1920-era working ranger station, complete with furnishings from that period. The first phase of restoration,

completed in April 1992 by the Region's Historic Preservation Team, replaced the cedar shingle roof and rotting sill logs, and rebuilt the front porch. Work scheduled this year will restore windows, complete work on the front porch and refresh the daubing between the logs. Plans for restoring and furnishing the interior are underway as well.



L to R - District Ranger Larry Timchak receives National Register certificate from Montana Governor Marc Racicot

Largest Wolf in "Lower 48" Found in Region 1

by Seth Diamond, Resource Program Planning Manager
Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest

When thundering herds of bison survived only in the minds of starving Blackfeet, a dark period for another race began. The gray wolf, like the Blackfeet, were forced to turn to

tremendous herds of elk, mule deer, and bighorn sheep. The risks are obvious and ranchers are understandably nervous.

When dozens of reliable wolf sightings were received in 1989, the Rocky Mountain District stood at a crossroads. The choices were either to cross our fingers and pray that wolves would not kill livestock or develop a project to reduce the risk of wolf depredations. Taking action was the obvious course and a long-term study of recolonizing wolves was launched. By learning the wolves' habits, ranchers could be posted on their whereabouts and an atmosphere where wolves and livestock coexist could be fostered.

Wolf specialist Pat Finnegan and his surveying team have clocked over 1,500 miles each winter in search of wolf sign. In 1989, they discovered a pack of five wolves using the Boone and Crockett Club's Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Ranch. Then mysteriously the wolves vanished. Were they shot? Did they disperse? The mystery remains unsolved.

That same winter of 1989 the survey team also discovered a male wolf wintering deep in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. After four years and hundreds of miles of tracking, the data collected for this lone wolf has shed light on how these normally social animals survive alone. This wolf's territory is enormous, approximately 750 square miles. He spends most of the winter on remote backcountry elk winter range, shifting to calving areas in the spring. Mule deer and elk are his main prey; however he also scavenges on mountain lion kills.

Until recently no evidence of breeding wolves existed. This past February, a Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks employee observed a wolf pair breeding on the Sun River Wildlife Management Area. Two weeks later he reported the pair feeding on a kill. It was one of those rare winter days with excel-

lent tracking snow, mild temperatures, and no wind. Perfect conditions for darting and collaring wolves. Joe Fontaine, Wolf Recovery Project Leader with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ordered a helicopter, and Animal Damage Control Wolf Specialist, Carter Neimeyer prepared for darting.

At the kill site, Carter followed wolf tracks to an aspen stand. The noise of the helicopter spooked the wolves. The female raced for a stand of limber pine. The male loped slowly away, alternately glancing between the helicopter and his mate. The pilot maneuvered to within 5 yards of the male and Carter shot the wolf with a tranquilizer dart. Within 10 minutes, the wolf was down.

He was massive--122 lbs. The largest wolf ever captured in the lower 48.

Surprisingly, he had an eartag. He had been captured as a pup five years ago in British Columbia, more than 150 air miles away. This wolf was tagged as part of a wolf study led by University of Montana professor, Dan Pletscher. According to Dan, several months after this wolf was tagged in 1988, the pack disappeared. Dan believed they may have been poisoned. If this happened, there was at least one survivor.

After collecting physical information, the wolf, later nicknamed Clyde, was fitted with a radiocollar and released. During the past two months, we have radiotracked Clyde and Bonnie across 160 square miles of rugged foothills. Mule deer and elk calves have been their major prey. Local ranchers have been exceptionally cooperative, allowing tracking on their lands and providing sighting information. In turn, they are kept posted on the pair's movements. With pups due in April, the next goal is to locate the den. Whether Bonnie and Clyde will emulate their namesake is anyone's guess. Any wolf that has survived five years and travelled from British Columbia to Montana's East Front must be smart or very lucky. Which it is will surely be discovered in the days ahead.



"Clyde"-- all 122 pounds of him

White Horns. Unlike the Indians, there were no government plans for "civilizing" wolves and extermination began with a vengeance. In the 1880s, hundreds of wolves inhabited Montana's rugged Rocky Mountain Front. In 1910, 30 wolves remained. By 1930, Forest Service game counts recorded a single wolf.

Now decades after the last ancient wolf den has caved in, the frantic yelps and howls of wolf pups will again echo across the Front. The Rocky Mountain gray wolf has returned. On February 24, 1993 a breeding pair of wolves was confirmed, and the male darted and radiocollared. This milestone culminated a four-year wolf study led by the Rocky Mountain Ranger District of the Lewis and Clark National Forest and financed by the Boone and Crockett Club, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

Since the passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973, Canadian gray wolves have slowly been recolonizing northwestern Montana. After 20 years, four packs have established. If the pair on the Rocky Mountain Front produce pups, the Federal recovery goal (10 packs in Montana) will be met halfway.

Wolves face unique challenges on the Front. Thousands of cattle and sheep share winter and summer range with

Studies Begun on Wild and Scenic Rivers

by Brian Hensley, Contract Specialist
North Fork District
Clearwater National Forest

With the proliferation of hydroelectric, flood control and irrigation dams during this century, Congress passed the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 1968 to preserve "free flowing" rivers with "outstanding, remarkable values."

Within Region 1, about 110 stream segments were found eligible in Forest Plans for study for addition to the Wild and Scenic River Systems. The first of these suitability studies are now taking place in the Nez Perce, Clearwater, and Lolo National Forests.

The Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests are beginning their analysis of 27 streams. The documentation will be included in Environmental

Impact Studies that will provide recommendations to Congress on which rivers should be considered for designation.

During 1993, efforts will focus on 19 streams. The Nez Perce National Forest studies will begin on the following streams located in the upper Selway



Cayuse Creek in North Fork Analysis Area

drainage: Brushy Fork Creek, Cub Creek, Paradise Creek, Bear Creek, Wahoo Creek, East Moose Creek, West Moose Creek, North Moose Creek, Rhoda Creek, Three Links Creek, Saddle Fork Creek, Gedney Creek, West Fork Gedney Creek, and Running Creek.

The Clearwater National Forest studies will initiate studies for the North Fork of the Clearwater, Kelly Creek, Cayuse Creek, White Sand Creek, and a short section of the Lochsa River between White Sand Creek and Powell Ranger Station.

Any employees having knowledge of these rivers who wish to comment may send their remarks to Dennis Griffith, River Studies Coordinator, Nez Perce National Forest, Rt. 2, Box 475, Grangeville, ID 83530 (208 983-1950); DG D.Griffith:ROIF17A.

a note from Dave

It was in May 1872 that the major mining legislation under which we now operate was passed by Congress. Its purpose was "to promote the development of the mining resources of the United States, which it did. It also promoted the development of the country. The industrial growth of this nation has proceeded unimpeded by shortages, a situation few other countries have enjoyed. The 1872 mining law was also a prime instigator in the settlement of the West. There is no doubt of the profound impact of the law on the history of this country.



The major tenants of the law are that it opens public lands to exploration and rewards those who prove successful in their exploration with deed to the land or right to mine the metal deposits for nominal fees.

To the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)—the Federal agencies most affected by the 1872 law—it means that citizens have the right to explore, or prospect, on certain BLM or National Forest lands. If they make a discovery, they can make a claim to the land, or mine it, after obtaining approval, and treat it as if they owned it. That is their right under the present law. Certain lands are excluded from exploration, however, such as administrative sites, recreation areas, wild and scenic rivers and wilderness areas.

With the passage of time, certain aspects of the law have come under scrutiny. There are three or four points that appear to be the most controversial. One is that it limits the ability of the Federal agency to control what happens on its lands. Part of this discussion is the critical question of whether patents should be allowed on public lands. A patent gives the right to claim ownership of the land if certain conditions are met. Finally there is the controversy over fees, which most agree in today's world to be less than nominal. Many feel the time has come for a royalty or fee to the public for minerals contained in public lands.

In trying to gain some perspective of the law, keep in mind its original purpose. Certainly it has achieved its goal and has had beneficial effects in many areas. The law, however, has been on the books for 121 years. Amid an atmosphere of change, Congress is now considering legislation that would revise some aspects of the 1872 law.

There is no question that some mining is necessary to our industrialized economy. Where and how should it be allowed? Should the law be adapted to the ecosystem management approach we are applying to forest management? These and similar hard questions are properly resolved by our elected representatives in Congress. They will be listening carefully to the many voices of the people and the mining community in making their decisions.

Dave

Dave Jolly
Regional Forester

Fire in Wilderness

When
Where
How

Maintaining the primeval character of wildernesses and national parks with fire as a natural process remains controversial. How can fire be allowed to play its natural role without unacceptable consequences?

In 1983, a major symposium in Missoula on wilderness fire gave impetus to wilderness fire management programs. However it was in 1988, when extensive fires raged in wildernesses and national parks, most notably in Yellowstone National Park, that national attention was focused on the challenges of meeting wilderness goals with fire.

A symposium held March 30-April 1 at the University of Missoula on "Fire in Wilderness and Park Management" examined past lessons and future opportunities in the use of fire as a management tool. Over 450 people attended, including representatives from the four Federal agencies administering wilderness areas: U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land

Management, National Park Service and the Forest Service.

The primary message of the conference was to return fire to the wilderness, to counteract some of the hesitancy in use of fire that has resulted since the Yellowstone fires. The point was made that if fire is not allowed to play its natural role, wilderness as a resource suffers.

Although there may be agreement on the concept of returning fire to wilderness, concerns remain on the risk of fires escaping from wilderness boundaries. The National Wilderness Preservation System contains wildernesses of many sizes and shapes and in locations from almost urban to very remote. Each wilderness fire plan may take a different form responsive to the ecological role of fire in the wilderness and considerations unique to it, such as wilderness size, closeness to human habitation, and fire defensible boundaries.

Another quandary in devising a wilderness fire plan explored at the conference is the use of management-ignited prescribed fires, or man-ignited fires. Prescribed natural fires, where lightning fires are allowed to burn under specific prescription conditions, are an accepted management tool among wilderness managers. However, management-ignited fires, which cannot replicate the random nature of natural fires, is more controversial.

Other topics covered at the conference included the area of public relations and how the land managing agency can effectively work with the public to increase awareness of the natural role of fire in our environment. The dilemma remains for those line officers who must deal with the public on initiating a fire management program so important to meeting wilderness objectives while having so many inherent risks.

Using Minimum Impact Tactics to Suppress Fire

An ecosystem approach to fire management has changed our view of fire suppression actions on wildfires and holding actions on prescribed natural fires in the Northern Region. With every fire, a manager faces the need to consider land management objectives while minimizing costs and resource damage when selecting the appropriate response. It is regrettable when the primary remains of a wildfire is the impact left by suppression efforts.

Over the past year a team of specialists and managers from across the Region have been working with Walt Tomascak, Regional fire use specialist, to develop the Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics

(MIST) guidelines.

The guidelines are based on the work of Francis Mohr, aviation fire manager from the Uallowa-Whitman National Forest. The goal is to reduce impact of suppression while insuring the actions taken are both safe and effective. MIST are designed for use by land managers, incident management teams and firefighters for the full range of fires, from the simplest operation to the most complex. They provide direction for fireline construction, mop up, aviation operations, campsites, personal conduct, rehabilitation, demobilization and post-fire evaluation.

MIST will be introduced and incor-

*by Tim Love, Assistant District Ranger
Seeley Lake Ranger District
Lolo National Forest*



porated into training for application this year. If you have questions concerning the guidelines, contact Walt Tomascak in the Regional Office (329-3404).

The End of an Era

by Tim Eldridge, Information Assistant
Aviation and Fire Management

Perhaps the most eventful occasion of the uneventful 1992 fire season for Northern Region's Aviation and Fire Management was the retirement of two of its most colorful smokejumpers, Jim Cyr and Floyd Whitaker.

Jim Cyr

Loft foreman Jim Cyr started his career in 1961 on the Ninemile brush crew. The following year marked his introduction to fire suppression with the Ninemile Hotshots. He began his smokejumping career at the Aerial Fire Depot in 1963. During the winter months, Jim worked at the Regional Office with the Engineering cartography shop from 1964-1968.

Jim received a permanent appointment with the Forest Service in 1969. An important contribution Jim made to the agency was the development, along with the late Frank Sanders, of the F5-12 main parachute system which was introduced for test jumps in 1979. By 1981, 100 percent of all Forest Service main parachutes had been converted from the less maneuverable T-10 parachutes to the more responsive FS-12s.

Jim and Frank were honored in Washington D.C. for their innovation. Jim still employs his skill as a designated parachute rigger examiner at the Aerial Fire Depot when needed.

States Jeff Kinderman, who will take over Cyr's duties as loft foreman. "There's no way to measure the many hours Jim worked at training other people. From parachute rigger training, to airplane exits out of the tower, his concern for safety was always the most important part of his lesson."

Jim "Grumpy" Cyr plans to continue working his ranch near Frenchtown.

Floyd Whitaker

Squad leader Floyd Whitaker began his firefighting career in 1961 at the Los Padres National Forest in California. He began jumping at the Redding

Smokejumper Base in 1965. In 1970 he decided to move to the Missoula smokejumper base. The Aerial Fire Depot provided summer employment for Floyd, while the Missoula Technology and Development Center provided winter work on a core sample drilling crew.

Despite Floyd's gruff exterior and ominous size, his heart sometimes gives him away. A co-worker told the tale of a daring rescue of a cow elk that had fallen through some thin ice while crossing a river. Floyd walked out on the ice and winched the elk out of its predicament, then proceeded to try to revive the animal by massaging and moving its legs. Despite his efforts, the elk died.

One of the most exciting stories concerning Floyd, took place in 1973, while on a detail to Silver City, New Mexico. During a live fire jump, Floyd experienced a malfunction of his main parachute. In order to slow his descent and survive the fall, Floyd executed the procedure to deploy his reserve parachute. As Floyd's luck would have it, the reserve chute, partially inflated, wrapped around the main parachute lines, providing Floyd with very little change in his rate of descent.

A jumper on the ground estimates that Floyd hit the ground at approximately 60 miles an hour. Floyd's jump partner, Jim Linville recalls the jump. "I caught an updraft and landed about 400 yards away from the jump spot so I got to see the whole thing. By the time I got over to Floyd he was sitting on a stump smoking a cigarette. Floyd's only injury was a sprained ankle."

Floyd jumped for 13 more years before he started working for the Region 1 engine program as the shop foreman. Bud Clarke, Floyd's supervisor had this to say about Floyd, "I never had to worry, because Floyd always had the greatest personal initiative whether fighting fire or working on engines. Other than that, I don't have anything nice to say about him, except that he's a good friend."



Hotshot Crews Honored

by Jim O'Dell, Group Leader
Northern Rockies Hotshot Program
St. Maries Ranger District
Idaho Panhandle National Forests

The Bitterroot National Forest's Hotshot Crew—one of five Northern Region Forest Service Hot Shot Crews—was recently honored with the Regional Forester's Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Honor Award.

The Bitterroot, Flathead, Helena, Lolo, and St. Joe Hotshot Crews have maintained their Equal Employment Objectives (EEO) and have demonstrated their EEO commitment by developing crews composed of over 44 percent women and minorities for the past three years.

This is a landmark achievement for the Region One Hotshot program which consistently ranks among the Nation's finest. These crews provide top-notch personnel for fire suppression, emergency and non-emergency missions and offer the training and skills needed for the next generation of resource managers.

The challenges of recruitment, and the hiring and retention of affirmative action candidates for difficult, often dangerous work, lends added significance to the accomplishments and performance

Celebrate!

Earth Day 1993

HATS OFF to Roxie Stroud and others at the Musselshell Ranger District for the creative way they chose to celebrate Earth Day, held April 22. The district sponsored a poster contest on any Earth Day/Recycling theme, which was open to children in local schools grades K-6. Judging was done by District Ranger William Fortune. All posters will be displayed in participating local businesses.

What a great way to encourage young people to think of ways to better care for our earth home.



L to R - Zeb Barber, Laura Gaugler, Dale Vaughn, Dana Lammers, Daniel Gaugler, Erin Jones, Jordon Machler, Todd DeBuff, Robyn Lode

Clearwater Honors Senior Workers

by Jean Creaser, SCSEP Coordinator
Clearwater National Forest

On March 17, Clearwater National Forest sponsored a program honoring the Forest's 25 older workers. The employees work under the Senior Community Service Employment Program, sometimes called the Older American Program, a manpower grant from the Department of Labor to provide employment for senior citizens.

Ms. Juanita Cooper, Clearwater National Forest's Administrative Officer, was the keynote speaker. She stated that there was no "typical" senior employee. "All they have in common is that they are 55 or older, some of them lot older. The top age is 84, but it should come as no surprise they are not communicating their age. Why should they? That is not what is important about them."

Ms. Cooper quoted another senior she knew who said, "I can do anything I ever could. It just takes a little longer." She reminded the audience that the senior workers are not limited mentally, but they have had to develop ways of coping with physical limitations.

The senior workers do a wide variety of jobs. At the Supervisor's Office they file, copy, answer questions at the front desk, microfilm, and help in the vehicle shop. At the districts they serve as data collectors, campground hosts, campground maintenance crews, carpenters, artifact rehabilitators, jani-

tors—a little bit of everything.

Cooper reiterated that the jobs performed are not the "glory jobs," but the work of seniors does help accomplish the forest's goals and objectives.

American Wetlands Month

by Steve Potts, Environmental Engineer
Environmental Protection Agency

Wetlands are areas that are wet long enough and often enough to support vegetation typically associated with saturated soil conditions. Wetlands include swamps, marshes, bogs, prairie potholes, sloughs, oxbow lakes, wet meadows, and similar areas, but they may be dry part of the year.

Pressures to "develop" wetlands have been, and still are, strong. It wasn't too long ago that many wetlands were regarded as wastelands that bred disease and pestilence; areas suitable for reclamation and development. Filling and draining wetlands for more useful economic purposes was considered a progressive public-spirited thing to do. It has been estimated that over half of our nation's original wetland acreage (estimated initially to be over 200 million acres in the lower 48 states) has been lost to development and conversion to cropland.

As more wetlands have been lost, there has been increasing public appreciation that remaining wetlands are essential to our waterfowl, our wildlife, our fisheries and shell fisheries, our drinking water supplies, and our flood-prone areas. The intrinsic values of wetlands were not fully recognized or appreciated until their loss started to reveal problems. Along with this appreciation has come increasing public interest in protecting our remaining wetlands.

May is American Wetlands Month. Take this opportunity to appreciate a nearby wetland, become familiar with federal regulation that ensures protection of wetlands, and find what you can do to protect these areas that provide such important and irreplaceable ecological functions.

Tips to Live By

Statistically, logging is this country's most dangerous occupation; felling trees with a chain saw is the most dangerous of logging activities. It is important, therefore, for employees to be especially careful in executing any activity related to the felling process. Any error with use of equipment, inattention or carelessness in an operating procedure, even a wind gust can be fatal.

Being alert or anticipating what COULD happen is a good defense against accidents. Also important is using good equipment, including specialized safety equipment and providing training programs to hone the skills of the experienced worker or give guidance to the rookie. It is useful to hold regular safety meetings to discuss general safety concerns or elicit accident-prevention ideas.

Other ways to lower accident rates is to devise an incentive or awards program to recognize outstanding safety records. Above all, DON'T GET IN A HURRY AND DON'T CUT CORNERS. Make safety a priority.

Bringing Archaeology to the Classroom

by Connie Reid, Archaeologist
Kootenai National Forest

"I wish we could play archaeology every day," commented a third grader from McGrade Elementary School in Libby, Montana. This spring elementary students in Libby were given the opportunity to become archaeologists for a day, with the help of Kootenai National Forest archaeologists.

Students, grades kindergarten through 5, were part of an effort to pilot test an archaeology teaching curriculum developed by Kootenai National Forest archaeologists in cooperation with area elementary school teachers. The curriculum consists of teacher's guide, "Montana's Heritage: Bringing Archaeology into the Classroom," and kits containing artifacts and other instructional items.

The response from teachers, students, and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. The guide teaches students about the prehistory and history of Northwest Montana and demonstrates various techniques used by archaeologists to study the past.

The effort was funded through a cost share agreement between Asa Wood Elementary School and the Forest. The school was very excited about this opportunity because there is little information about local prehistory and history in the



Students reconstructing pottery dishes

current school curriculum. Kootenai Heritage staff were able to share the results of their work on the Forest with the students, helping to fill that void.

Kootenai Tribal members also contributed to the guide, providing students with an awareness of the native people who once lived along the Kootenai River and who still consider the Kootenai country an important part of their culture.

Final versions of the guide will be available for the 1993/1994 school year. The kits will be circulated among Lincoln and Sanders County schools. The Kootenai Heritage Program staff hope to distribute the guide throughout the state of Montana.



Teacher Sheila Crosmer standing at R. Students L to R - Sarah Claver, Quinn Holzer, Roy Corbell

Computer Students Take a Look at DG

by Janet Gradwell,
Support Services Specialist
Judith Ranger District
Lewis & Clark National Forest

For computer high school students, a tour of Forest Service facilities explaining the Data General system would seem a "natural." Which is how Judith Ranger District personnel came to host nine computer students from Stanford High School. Staff explained their jobs and how the computer system helps them in their everyday functions—from budgeting to timber and range. The students were overwhelmed and impressed by the complexity of our daily jobs and the computer's involvement in accomplishing tasks.

Following the informational portion of the visit, a "hands-on" experience was held. Using the "mail" feature of the computer, they sent messages to each other, to other districts and carbon copied messages to themselves. The exercise enabled them to see one of the various features of the system available to employees.

High School Girls Learn about Non-Traditional Careers

by Leaf Magnuson, Information Assistant
Missoula Ranger District
Lolo National Forest

Almost 300 young women from Ronan, Noxon, Plains, Lolo, Salmon Prairie and the Seeley-Swan Valley local school attended the 1993 Expanding Your Horizons seminar at Sentinel High School on April 5. Expanding Your Horizons is a national program designed to increase interest among women in mathematics and science and to present information about career opportunities in these general areas.

Women of Region 1 were active participants, contributing four speakers and three panelists. Kate Walker-Smith spoke on fisheries biology, Ann Acheson on her background as an air resource specialist, and Risa Lange-Navarro on firefighting. Margie Lubinski, Cheryl Vanderberg, and Shelley Henderson served as panelists. Other women from the Region made appearances in the "Women Working For the Environment" slide collection presented by Leaf Magnuson.

The Forest Service representatives joined over 30 other women from the community who work in finance, medicine, law enforcement, planning, politics, land appraising, aviation, weather, and many other non-traditional areas.

Personnel Update

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

DEZORT, ANITA, landscape architect, SO, promotion
SHAU, GARLAND, range conservationist, reassignment,
Philipsburg RD, Deerlodge NF

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

EDDY, BILL, forestry technician, Sula RD, belt buckle award
FRENCH, H. BLAIR, volunteer, SO, belt buckle award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

DEMONTIGNY, JACQUELINE, student trainee (ecology),
Stevensville RD, reassignment, SO
HEMPHILL, SUNNY, program manager, Trapper Creek JCC,
reassignment, RO PM, Equal Employment Specialist
TROTTER, TIM, forester, Darby RD, reassignment, Sula RD

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

SUK, SALLY, computer programmer analyst, SO, spot award
RIEBE, DEANNA, public affairs specialist, SO, spot award
GIESEY, MICHAEL, forester, Pierce RD, cash award
THOMPSON, PAUL, civil engineering technician, Lochsa RD,
promotion

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BURNS, ROBERT, forester, Lochsa RD, transfer, BIA, Hoquim, WA
LITTLEJOHN, ROBERT, supervisory civil engineer, SO,
reassignment, technical services

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

CORRIGAN, ROSEMARY, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
HEANEY, ALICE, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
JANY, JOSEPH, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
JOHNSTON, JAMES P., recreation specialist, Anaconda CCC,
promotion
LIEBETRAU, SHEILA, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
LORENGO, JUDITH, social services assistant, Anaconda CCC,
promotion
MCLEAN, DONNA, manpower development specialist,
Anaconda CCC, cash award
MEYER, BRYCE, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
OLSON, TRUDI, legal technician, SO, promotion
PRINKKI, DONALD, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award
RUSSELL, GERALD, training technician, Anaconda CCC, cash award
SCHUELKE, BRUCE, forester, Butte RD, cash award
SOLOGUB, JOSEPH, criminal investigator, Zone, promotion
STURM, LAURA, teacher, Anaconda CCC, cash award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

DURAN, LARRY, wildlife biologist, Deer Lodge RD, transfer, Rio
Grande NF

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

MARX, BARB, resource specialist, promotion, SO
JOAN, ROE, business management clerk, cash award, 50
WOMACK, KATHY, resource assistant, promotion, 50

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

NYMAN, MESIA, range conservationist, Helena RD, cash award
OLSEN, LOIS, range conservationist, SO, cash award
ZUBACK, KAROL, personnel clerk, SO, promotion, RO

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

HART, BARBARA, office automation clerk, SO, reassignment
MILBURN, DEBBIE, purchasing agent, 50, reassignment
PARKER, JEFF, civil engineering technician, SO, reassignment,
Pike Isabel NF

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

AGA, LOIS, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
ARNESON, KERRY, cash award, writer/editor, Fernan RD
CHATTERTON, CLEVE, cash award, forester, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
CHEEVERS, NORMA, cash award, purchasing agent, Fernan RD
CLEVELAND, ROBERT, cash award, forestry technician,
Coeur d'Alene Nursery
CORDOVA, MAXINE, cash award, biological science aid,
Coeur d'Alene Nursery
CURTIS, LARRY, cash award, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
DIETZ, JANICE, cash award, computer assistant, Fernan RD
DONOHUE, ELEANOR, cash award, biological science aid,
Coeur d'Alene Nursery
DRABEN, RICHARD, cash award, gardener, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
EGGLESTON, KENT, cash award, horticulturist, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
ERICKSON, DARLA, cash award, biological science aid,
Coeur d'Alene Nursery
GARVEY, DAWNELLE, cash award, biological science technician
(plants), Coeur d'Alene Nursery
GLEN, DAVID, cash award, supervisory forestry technician, Bonners
Ferry RD
GOETZ, LENORA, cash award, biological science technician (plants),
Coeur d'Alene Nursery
GRAVES, JERRY, cash award, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
GRAY, HARVETTA, cash award, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
GUNTER, DONALD, quality step increase, supervisory forester, Bonners
Ferry RD
HOUGHTON, JANE, SO, landscape architect, temporary promotion,
Eldorado NF
KEMPTON, BETTY, cash award, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene
Nursery
MCCONNAUGHEY, HARLOW, quality step increase, administrative
officer, Bonners Ferry RD
MACDONALD, LAURENE, cash award, resource assistant, Fernan RD
MECKEL, MARGARET, cash award, conveyance examiner, SO
MELTON, GAIL, cash award, information receptionist OA, Fernan RD
MERRITT, MARIDEL, cash award, writer editor, Bonners Ferry RD
MOTTERN, JOHN, cash award, biological science aid, Coeur d'Alene
Nursery
MOUSSEAU, MARK, cash award, forester, Coeur d'Alene Nursery
MYERS, DANIEL, cash award, forestry technician, Bonners Ferry RD
POLICHIO, PEGGY, quality step increase, supervisory forester, Fernan RD
REICHERT, GEORGENE, cash award, resource clerk OA, Fernan RD
RUSSELL, SALLY, cash award, lead forestry technician, Fernan RD
SAYER, GERTRUDE, cash award, finance & pay assistant, Fernan RD
SCOTT, LISA, Wallace RD, geologist, temporary promotion, Eldorado NF
SHERIDAN, PATRICK, cash award, supervisory forester, Fernan RD
STEINHORST, ROBERT, quality step increase, supervisory forester,
Bonners Ferry RD
WILKINS, DEBORAH, forester, promotion, forester, Fernan RD
WOLD, ROY, quality step increase, supervisory forestry technician,
Bonners Ferry RD
WYNSMA, JAMIE, cash award, forestry technician, Bonners Ferry RD

REASSIGNMENT/TRANSFERS

COOLEY, PATRICK, forester, reassignment, forester, Bonners Ferry RD
COSOLITO, JOHN, forestry technician, reassignment, Bonners Ferry RD
DIETZ, JAMES, forestry technician, reassignment, Priest Lake RD
MCGILLIVRAY, JACLYN, forestry technician, reassignment, forestry
technician, Fernan RD
RIDGE, DIETRA, supervisory voucher examiner, SO, support services
supervisor, Fernan RD
ROGOWSKI, CYNTHIA, budget and accounting analyst, reassignment, SO
SHIRA, PATRICIA, forester, reassignment, forester, Bonners Ferry RD

RESIGNATIONS

HARDY, CHRISTOPHER, resignation, hydrological technician, Fernan RD
STOROJOHANN, BARBARA, resignation, SCSEP, SO

Personnel Update

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

DITTMER, BONNIE, purchasing agent, Rexford RD, cash award
NIX, JANET, business management clerk, Rexford RD, cash award
SANCHEZ, FRANCISCO, wildlife biologist, Three Rivers RD, promotion, Chattahoochee-Oconee NF

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

GIESEY, MICHAEL, forester, Clearwater NF to Cabinet RD, reassignment
MASON, SANDRA, support services supervisor, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie NF reassignment, Fortine RD

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

HAGEN, ARLYSS, cash award, SO
HERTEL, JACQUELINE, quality step increase, SO
MACKAY, DOUGLAS, promotion, forestry technician, Kings Hill RD
ROBERTS, BARBARA, promotion, civil engineering technician, SO

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ALLEY, SUE, forestry technician, Ninemile RD, safety award
BLINN, MIKE, contract specialist, SO, cash award from Trapper Creek Job Corps
FISHER, JACK, resource assistant, Missoula RD, 35-year service award
RODGERS, NITA, personnel management specialist, SO, 30-year service award
KRAMER, DICK, fishery biologist, SO, temporary promotion, District Ranger, Superior RD

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

ARNZEN, JILL, law enforcement assistant, SO, Quality Step Increase
CANADAY, LISA, personnel assistant, SO, promotion
CRUMB, DAVID, lead forestry technician, Clearwater RD, cash award
ELLIOTT, CYNTHIA, forestry technician, SO, promotion
HAYDEN, LINDA, geologist, Salmon River RD, cash award
KIRTLAND, CONNIE, computer assistant, Selway RD, promotion
MYERS, MICHAEL, forestry technician, Moose Creek RD, Quality Step Increase
PETERSON, MARK, forester, Clearwater RD, cash award
STEWART, JANICE, procurement assistant, SO, promotion
WRIGHT, GARY, forestry technician, Salmon River RD, cash award

REASSIGNMENTS

GRIFFITH, DENNIS, forester, SO, reassignment, Clearwater NF

REGIONAL OFFICE

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BAND, LYNETTE, procurement assistant, ADM, promotion
BOLLENBACKER, BARRY, forester, TCFPM, promotion
CARLSON, THOMAS, lead forestry technician-smoke-jumper, A&FM-AFD, spot award
DAHL, GAIL A., program assistant, RAWE, QSI
DELGADO, KIMBERLY, information receptionist, PAO, spot award
FOILES, KIMBERLEY, computer scientist, MS, promotion
GRAY, TIM, computer scientist, MS, spot award
HARRIS, WILLIAM E., carpenter helper, ENG, promotion
HOUSKA, GREG, aircraft attendant, A&FM-AFD, cash award (from WO)
KINDERMAN, JEFFERY, supervisory forestry technician-smokejumper, A&FM-AFD, promotion
LENTZ, GRETCHEN, computer scientist, MS, spot award
UBER, GEIL, office automation clerk, PAO, spot award
ZUBACK, KAROL, office automation clerk, Helena NF, promotion, personnel clerk, RO-Personnel
ZWANG, CHERYLE, public affairs specialist, PAO, spot award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

SATER, JACK R., fire business management specialist, ADM, reassignment
TRIPP, JUDY, biological science technician, RAWE, reassignment

RESIGNATION

NYQUEST, GLORIA, office automation clerk, ENG

Retirement News

Jim Pfau, transportation engineer for the Custer National Forest, retired on May 1, marking 29 years of Federal service.

After graduating from North Dakota State University in civil engineering, Pfau began his career with the Forest Service in Region 2 at Fort Collins, Colorado, headquarters for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. He later worked for the Routt and Black Hills National Forests, both in Region 2, before transferring to the Custer.

Bob Quade, assistant director of Personnel Management for Region 1, retired April 30 after 32 years of Federal employment.

Quade began his Federal service with the U.S. Army in 1955-57. He later worked for the U.S. Civil Service Commission as a personnel investigator in Las Vegas, Nevada, joining the Forest Service in 1965 as an administrative trainee with the Helena National Forest. Six months later, Quade was promoted to personnel/resource section head for the Deerlodge National Forest. In 1967 he was promoted to personnel officer for the Clearwater National Forest. In 1969 he was promoted and transferred to the Colville (Washington) National Forest as administrative officer.

In 1974, Quade returned to Region 1 as a supervisory personnel management specialist at the Regional Office. He became assistant director of Personnel Management in 1980.

Quade and his wife will continue to make their home in Missoula. They are the parents of two daughters and a son, all married. They also have two grandchildren.

Other Retirements

James Armstrong, supervisory forester, Kings Hill Ranger District, Lewis and Clark National Forest

Jerry Colvault, supervisory forester, Lolo National Forest

Shirley Deschamps, resource clerk, Lolo National Forest

Ed Flanders, telecommunications specialist, Beaverhead National Forest

Donald Strunk, supervisory forestry technician, Priest Lake Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Robert Wallace, supervisory forestry technician, Salmon River Ranger District, Nez Perce National Forest

In Memoriam

Louis F. Hartig, former Region 1 employee, died April 10 at his home in Lewiston of cancer. He was 89.

Hartig began his 46-year career with the Forest Service in 1923 as a seasonal telephone lineman and smokechaser with the Clearwater National Forest. In 1928 he was promoted to assistant ranger with the Clearwater, then to acting ranger, then district ranger.

In 1943, Hartig was named ranger of the Lochsa District. During his tenure, the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness areas was established. Hartig assisted in defining the boundaries and in preparing a management plan for the wilderness. He was historian at the Orofino Forest Supervisor's office before retiring in 1966.

After retirement, Hartig was co-author of the book, "Lochsa: the Story of a Ranger District and Its People." He and his wife also served as volunteers as the old Lochsa Ranger Station, where they once lived. Accessible only by horse or foot at the time the Hartigs lived there, the historic ranger station was later converted into a visitor center and museum.

Manley "Bud" Miller, 73, died April 15 at his home in Hamilton. Born in Hurdsville, North Dakota, Miller joined the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937 and spent a year in Wyoming and Idaho.

Miller moved to Hamilton in 1938. In 1942 he went to work for Rocky Mountain Laboratories, retiring in 1975.

Games to Help You Teach

by Leaf Magnuson, Information Assistant
Missoula Ranger District
Lolo National Forest

If you think working for the Forest Service means playing games, you're right! Dr. Ralph Allen, education professor at the University of Montana, held a workshop for a group of people from the Lolo National Forest who do elementary level environmental education to help them build better presentations. Allen gave ideas on how to loosen up an audience to encourage participation and discussion.

A game gave the class the experience of concept exploration. Instruction was also given on other interactive tools. The Lolo can expect some fine presentations from the participants this year!



In one of the exercises from the "Project Wild" book, employees were transformed into a herd of musk ox (calves, cows and bulls) and wolves. On the flanks of the herd, "big bull" Marcia Hogan successfully fended off the wolves. The wolves starved trying to work the herd, ending the game rather abruptly.

The Northern Region News

USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807

BULK RATE
Postage & Fees Paid
USDA Forest Service
Permit No. G-40

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (3)
USDA
SERIAL RECORDS RM 002 VC#01603
BELTSVILLE CA 20705

Official Business
Penalty For Private Use, \$300



Printed on Recycled,
Recyclable paper.